

Dangerous Condition of Building of CEDTI, Imphal

2108. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware of the facts that the main Institute building of CEDTI, Imphal which was constructed by NIDC during 1989-91 is in a dangerous condition due to faulty construction and low quality materials used;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the CBRI, Roorkee is finalising the steps for strengthening and repairing of the building; and
- (c) when the repairing works of the building will be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) The main Institute building of the Centre for Electronics Design & Technology of India (CEDTI), Imphal has developed some cracks because of subsidence. A team from Central Building Research Institute (CBRI), Roorkee is investigating the matter. After receipt of their report, necessary repairs/renovation work will be undertaken.

Obscene Materials down loaded into Cyber System

2109. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether he is aware that all kinds of obscene materials are being downloaded into our cyber system which is corrupting the minds of the younger generations from school upwards;
- (b) if so, what steps are contemplated to apprehend the culprits and award them deterrent punishment; and
- (c) what steps has the Government in mind to check the on-slaughts of such incursions into our social fabrics?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) Government is aware that obscene material is available in the Cyber System and can therefore be accessed by computer users, including the younger generation. As per Internet Service Providers License Agreement, the licensee shall ensure that obscene contents are not carried in his/her network. The

Information Technology Bill 2000, which was recently passed by Parliament, contains punitive measures against publication in the electronic form of information which is obscene.

Internet Connections in the Country

2110. SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Internet connections, per million population in the country and how it compares with corresponding figures in Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Assam and other States;
- (b) what targets, if any, have been fixed in this regard for the Ninth Five Year Plan; and
- (c) the State-wise allocation of funds for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) The number of Internet connections per million population in the country is estimated as 945. The comparative figures, state-wise are given in Statement I-(See below).

(b) The list of Internet nodes planned to be set up in the country by the Government during the 9th Five Year Plan is at Statement-II (See below).

The number of Internet subscribers for the country as a whole in the year 2002 is projected to be 38 lakhs.

(c) The total funds allocated by Department of Telecom Services for the purpose of promotion of internet service in the country during the year 2000-2001 is Rs. 107.46 crores. The allocation is envisaged to be utilized for States depending upon the number of internet nodes planned to be added in different States.